

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of licensing and managing media resources in a tele-
2 communications system including a converged services platform, said method compris-
3 ing the steps of:

4 creating a central pool storing resource points representing a license or authoriza-
5 tion level of media resource service capability; and

6 dynamically allocating portions of said central pool to one or more media re-
7 | source cards, as needed to perform specific DSP services for a customer.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of: stor-
2 ing in said central pool default and/or additional licensed resource points represented by a
3 converged services platform.

1 3. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein said allocating step allocates
2 | portions of said central pool to a particular media resource card for a specific DSP media
3 resource service.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of: pro-
2 viding redundancy in the event a media resource card becomes unavailable by allocating
3 additional portions of said central pool to remaining available cards.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of: des-
2 ignating a specified number of resource points required to perform each media resource
3 service available.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 5, further comprising the step of: de-
2 termining a number of resource points needed to perform an application by multiplying a
3 number of required media resource services by their corresponding number of required
4 resource points.

1 7. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 6, further comprising the step of: li-
2 censing additional resource points to a customer in the event that said resource points
3 needed to perform an application are greater than said default resource points available.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 7, further comprising the step of: noti-
2 fying said customer that a license for additional resource points is needed in that event.

1 | 9. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein said DSP media resource
2 service is selected from the group consisting of tone generation, tone detection, and re-
3 cording/playback of voice recorded announcements.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A converged services platform, comprising:
2 one or more media resource cards for performing media resource services;
3 a central pool storing resource points representing a license or authorization level
4 of media resource capability, said central pool for storing default and/or additional li-
5 censed resource points represented by said converged services platform; and
6 a processor for dynamically allocating portions of said central pool to one or more
7 | media resource cards, as needed to perform specific DSP services for a customer.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein said
2 processor allocates portions of said central pool to a particular media resource card for a
3 specific media resource service.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein said
2 processor provides redundancy in the event a media resource card becomes unavailable
3 by allocating additional portions of said central pool to remaining available cards.

1 13. (Currently Amended) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein each
2 media resource service has a specified number of resource points, which are required to
3 perform said DSP service.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 13, wherein a
2 number of resource points needed to perform an application is determined by multiplying
3 a number of required media resource services by their corresponding number of required
4 resource points.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 14, wherein said
2 additional licensed resource points are licensed to a customer in the event that said re-
3 source points needed to perform an application are greater than said default resource
4 points available.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The converged services platform as in claim 10, wherein said
2 DSP media resource service is selected from the group consisting of tone generation, tone
3 detection, and recording/playback of voice recorded announcements.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 10, further com-
2 prising: cache memories programmed to cache voice recorded announcements and/or
3 other announcements for playback.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 17, further com-
2 prising: an associated file server coupled with a network interface and said processor,
3 said file server storing said voice recorded announcements and other announcements.

1 19. (Currently Amended) A converged services platform, comprising:
2 means for creating a central pool storing resource points representing a license or
3 authorization level of media resource service capability; and
4 means for dynamically allocating portions of said central pool to one or more me-
5 dia resource cards, as needed to perform specific DSP services for a customer.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The converged services platform as in claim 19, further com-
2 prising: means for storing in said central pool default and/or additional licensed resource
3 points represented by a converged services platform

1 21. (Currently Amended) A method for managing available resources of a telecommu-
2 nications system having one or more media resource cards, the method comprising:
3 storing available resource points representing media resource service capability of
4 the telecommunications system; and
5 dynamically allocating available resource points to the media resource cards in
6 order to perform media resource services provided by a DSP, as needed for a customer.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:
2 preventing a media resource card from performing a media resource service in the
3 event there are no remaining available resource points.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:
2 storing additional resource points based on a customer need to utilize more media
3 resources than allowed by the available resource points.

1 24. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:
2 storing a default number of available resource points based on available DSP re-
3 sources ~~of~~on the one or more media resource cards.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 24, further comprising:
2 in response to removal of one of the media resource cards, removing a corre-
3 sponding number of default available resource points.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, further comprising:
2 assigning a number of resource points required to perform certain media resource
3 services.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 26, further comprising:
2 allocating a corresponding number of resource points to the media resource cards
3 in order to perform a certain DSP media resource service.

- 1 28. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 21, wherein the media resource ser-
- 2 vice capability is based on a license or authorization level of a customer.